

providing a function for setting an attribute of an object;

and

providing a function for retrieving an attribute of an object.

6. (Amended) An article comprising a medium storing instructions that cause a processor-based system to:

receive a request from a software program;

act upon a plurality of objects based upon the request received; and

manipulate a redundant array of independent disks modeled by the plurality of objects.

28. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of hardware devices comprise a redundant array of independent disks.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the plurality of objects comprise redundant array of independent disk objects.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the redundant array of independent disk objects comprises at least one disk object, at least one array object and at least one volume object.

31. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein each one of the redundant array of independent disk objects comprises at least one method, at least one property, and at least one event.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising communicating with at least one of the redundant array of independent disks using the at least one property.